



RockvilleReports

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• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •

Proposed FY14 Budget to Reach Mayor and Council in March

The Mayor and Council will receive City Manager Barb Matthews' proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014 on March 18. It will outline proposed spending across all city departments and contain proposed property tax rates, and water, sewer, refuse and storm water management fees.

City leaders discussed the most recent round of the City's property tax assessments, and their impact on the FY14 budget, on Feb. 11. The City's total taxable assessment increased by

about 3 percent in 2013.

The Mayor and Council are expected to discuss the proposed budget at worksessions throughout the spring. The public can weigh in on the proposed budget by speaking at public hearings and by sending written comments to the City Clerk's office before the Mayor and Council adopt a final budget in May.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. ✚

IT'S YOUR MONEY:

Learn more about the FY14 budget at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget.



An artist's rendering of a re-imagined Rockville Pike.

Rockville Pike Plan Subject of Upcoming Public Hearing

The Planning Commission is scheduled to host a public hearing on Wednesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. on a draft of the Rockville Pike Plan, the document that governs land use and transportation on that well-known stretch of road.

The plan is available to read on the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike. This version of the plan includes revisions made after a series of interactions between the Planning Commission and the public over the last two years. The plan area is the two-mile stretch of Rockville Pike between Richard Montgomery Drive (just south of Rockville town center) and the southern City limits (just north of Bou Avenue).

The goals for the area include creating a place of pride for the City; improving the experience for drivers, walkers, bicyclists and transit riders; maintaining economic vitality; ensuring that

development is supported by sufficient public services and facilities; and improving the environment of the corridor.

After the Planning Commission public hearing, the commission may make further revisions to their draft before sending it on to the Mayor and Council. The Mayor and Council are expected to hold a public hearing and worksessions on the document throughout the summer and fall, ahead of adoption later this year.

To submit written comments about the draft plan to the Planning Commission or to sign up to testify at the commission public hearing, contact Cindy Kebba at ckebba@rockvillemd.gov or by mail at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

For more information on the plan, call Kebba in the Community Planning and Development Services department at 240-314-8233. ✚

Spring Leaf Collection Begins in Rockville

Residents Should Rake Leaves to the Street

Each year, Rockville's Department of Public Works provides residents with one leaf pick-up during a two-week period in April.

Residents should rake leaves to the curb or next to the pavement if no curb exists. Leaves can be raked anytime immediately before the scheduled collection dates. Raking leaves just before collection will help reduce the potential for leaves to block parking access, fall into storm drains, catch fire, or damage grass if the leaves sit on top of it for too long.

Please do not place the leaves in plastic bags (biodegradable paper bags are ok). Move your leaves to the curb by 7 a.m. on your collection dates:

- **Area 1** (east of Route 355 and south of Broadwood Road including the Twinbrook neighborhood): April 1 and 2
- **Area 2** (east of Route 355 and north of Broadwood Road): April 3 and 4
- **Area 3** (west of Route 355 from Falls Road north through King Farm): April 5 and 8
- **Area 4** (neighborhoods west of I-270): April 9 and 10
- **Area 5** (west of Route 355 and south of Falls Road): April 11 and 12

The schedule and map can be found online at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/leaf.htm.

For more information, call the Department of Public Works at 240-314-8570. ✚



Rockville Police encourage residents to get hands-on police training.

Residents Invited to Attend the Citizens Police Academy

See What it Takes to Be Rockville City Police

Residents have the opportunity to go behind the badge at the Rockville Citizens Police Academy. Open for people age 18 and older, participants will learn about all aspects of the police department and receive hands-on training, complete with a graduation certificate at the end of the course.

The Rockville City Police are accepting applications for the upcoming Citizens Police Academy. The 10-week course begins March 19 and will consist of a weekly Tuesday evening class at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr. The course is offered for free and gives students

an idea about what it takes to be a Rockville City Police Officer.

Topics covered during the Citizens Police Academy include:

- Crime Scene Process
- Firearms Training Simulations
- K9 Unit Demonstrations
- Traffic Law
- Detectives and Investigation
- Bomb Unit

Interested applicants can email Corporal Ken Matney at kmatney@rockvillemd.gov for more information on how to register. Registration is available until the academy start date.

For more information go to www.rockvillemd.gov/police. ✚

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Attend a Gilbert & Sullivan production at the theatre.

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THIS SEASON'S HIGHLIGHTS

Register for Spring Recreation in the City

Sign Up for a Program with Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department

Get fit, stay active and learn a new skill this spring! The spring recreation guide from the City's Recreation and Parks Department is now available. You can view the guide on the City's website, www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation or pick up a copy at Rockville City Hall, the Rockville or Twinbrook Library or any of the City's recreation centers.

Classes are available for both children and adults, and are designed to promote physical exercise and wellness. Ages 16 and older can spice up their current workout with Cardio and Strength Fusion – a variety of cardiovascular routines, basic kickboxing, and dance aerobics. Or perfect your tennis stroke at Tennis and Fitness for Life, for ages 16 and up – work on ground strokes, volleys, serves, and overheads.

Residents and non-residents can also learn something new. Aspiring cartoonists ages six through 12 can take drawing to a whole new level at Abakadoodle – Drawsters where they'll learn about contour drawing, patterning, font design, cartooning, and other techniques.

Registration begins on Tuesday, March 12, for Rockville residents and Tuesday, March 19, for non-residents. Most spring classes start the week of April 8th. For more offerings and registration procedures, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation or call 240-314-8620.

Free Tax Preparation Offered

Community Action Agency's free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) partnership joins IRS professionals and volunteers to assist low to moderate-income residents to maximize their tax refunds and credits, including the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Services are provided through the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services' Community Action Agency's VITA Partnership with the IRS, the City of Gaithersburg's Bank-On initiative, Family Services, Inc., the City of Rockville, and the Maryland CASH Campaign.

If your family earns less than \$50,000 per year, you can receive free tax help and receive your 2012 federal and state refunds quickly through e-filing.

Appointments at Rockville's Community Services Division are through April 11, from 3 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 240-314-8310.

Get Started on Spring Cleaning

Special Collections For Bulk Refuse Available

Rockville provides six special bulk refuse collections per household each calendar year.

Bulk refuse collections are for large refuse that does not fit into carts, such as couches or desks. Residents must call 240-314-8568 on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. to schedule an appointment for collection. Bulk refuse must be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. in an unobstructed area on the scheduled collection date.

Special bulk refuse collections are limited to less than 500 pounds or 60 cubic feet. The following is a list of accepted bulk refuse:

- Fencing and landscape ties
- Furniture and toys (non-plastic)
- Lumber and remodeling debris
- Pianos
- Plate glass (wrapped or taped to prevent breakage)
- Rugs, carpet, mattress, box spring
- Non-metal window frames (remove glass or cover glass with cardboard or tape)
- Construction debris (small amounts belong in refuse)
- Couches
- Wooden desks

For more information on bulk refuse, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse.

Springtime In Rockville



Kickball is just one of the sports available for adults this spring. Sign up for a co-rec or women's team.

Spring Team Sports Available for Adults

With warmer weather on the horizon, adults 18 and older can get ready to enjoy the outdoors and stay active this spring.

Choose from a variety of sports, including the new women's kickball league, through the City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks.

Softball league play begins the week of April 8. Adults can sign up for men's softball or co-ed softball leagues. The co-ed softball league is a "reverse softball" league which means men will bat opposite their normal stance.

Adults can also get a kick out of one of the City's adult kickball leagues. League play for kickball begins April 18. In addition to the co-rec kickball league, a women's kickball league is offered this year. Games

will be played Thursday evenings under the lights at Mark Twain Park, 14501 Avery Rd.

The City will offer a men's spring basketball league on Wednesday evenings at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. League play will begin on April 24. Also new this year is the adult table tennis club, which will play at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center starting on March 27, and the City's adult Tennis Tournament (see page 6 for details).

Space in the leagues is limited so register early. The deadline to register is March 30. For more detailed information about the leagues and how to register, call 240-314-8620 or go to the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports. ❖

Spring Forward and Change Smoke Alarm Batteries

When you change your clocks this March 10, remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarm.

Replacing your smoke alarm's batteries annually and testing the alarm each month can help ensure that your alarms are working properly.

A working smoke alarm is the best way of alerting residents to a fire.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Smoke alarms should

be located outside of all sleeping areas, and on each level of the home, including basements. Safety experts recommend that smoke alarms also be installed inside of all sleeping areas, as is required in new homes.

Smoke alarms should be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and tested at least once a month. Batteries in smoke detectors should be changed, at a minimum, once a year.

For more information about how to keep your family safe at home, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/isd and click on fire safety. ❖

Excitement Awaits Kids at a Spring Break Mini Camp

Register for a week of activities

The City of Rockville is offering an affordable Spring Break Mini Camp for children at three conveniently located community centers.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will enjoy a week of supervised programs and activities from Monday, March 25, to Friday, March 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Activities include crafts, organized games, sports, fun and adventure. The Mini Camp includes a day trip to the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., where there will be hiking, indoor and outdoor games, and a campfire complete with s'mores. Participants should remember to bring a lunch each day and wear comfortable clothes and sneakers.

The Mini Camp will be available at the:

- **Lincoln Park**



Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. Register for course #42778. The day camp is \$120 for residents/\$125 for non-residents.

- **Thomas Farm Community Center**, 700 Falls Grove Dr.

Register for course #42169. Cost is \$130 for residents/\$140 for non-residents.

- **Twinbrook Community Recreation Center**, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy. Register for course #42773. The cost for the week-long camp is \$130 for residents/\$140 for non-residents.

Registration is required. Programming may vary slightly depending on the location. For more information go to www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation. ❖



Reserve Your Community Garden Plot

Find a place to exercise your green thumb at the Wootton's Mill Park on Hurley Avenue. There are 178 plots at the park available for rent, including one that is raised to be handicapped accessible.

Plots are approximately 20 by 25 feet. There are six water spigots for your use. Hoses are not provided.

The program runs April 1 through Nov. 15. Each plot is \$55 for residents and \$80 for non-residents. Registration begins Feb. 12 for residents and March 15 for

non-residents.

Register in one of the following ways:

- On-site at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Download a registration form at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/garden/. Fax the completed form to 240-314-8669; call to confirm receipt of the fax.

For more information, call 240-314-8660 or email Nanette Belice at nbelice@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

Mayor & Council

City of Rockville Elected Officials (Two-Year Term from November 2011 to November 2013)



Mayor
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember
John F. Hall, Jr.



Councilmember
Tom Moore



Councilmember
Bridget Donnell Newton



Councilmember
Mark Pierzchala



Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio visited fourth graders of Fallsmead Elementary school to talk about this year's contest.

Students Have the Chance to be Mayor for a Day

Calling all fourth graders! The City of Rockville wants to know what you would do if you were mayor. Students can participate in the annual Maryland Municipal League (MML) and the Maryland Mayors' Association (MMA) "If I Were Mayor" essay contest.

This year's essay theme is "Vision for the Future." Write a 275-word essay and submit to MML (1212 West St., Annapolis, MD 21401) by March 30.

One winning essay will be selected from each of the MML's 11 regional districts throughout the state. The 11 winners will be recognized at a ceremony in May in Annapolis.

MML will then send the entries from schools located in the City of Rockville to the City Clerk's Office to select a local winner and honorable

mentions. The winner will be the mayor of Rockville for a day. The honor of serving as Mayor for a Day includes lunch with Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio, a tour of City Hall, and participation in the Memorial Day parade.

Fourth graders can explore the following questions in their essay: If I were Mayor,

- What changes would I need to make?
- How would I make these changes?
- How would I involve citizens to help make my community a better place to live in the future?

For more information, go to www.mdmmunicipal.org and click on Mayor's Essay Contest under Programs and Services or call the City Clerk's office at 240-314-8280. ✚

Board and Commission Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for:

- Board of Supervisors of Elections (2)
- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Human Rights Commission (2)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Rockville Scholarship Foundation (3)

According to City policy, members whose terms are ending are invited to reapply for appointment.

To learn more about any board or commission, call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 or go to www.rockvillemd.gov. ✚

General Assembly to Discuss Funding for Municipalities

Governor Martin O'Malley issued his Fiscal Year 2014 proposed budget to the General Assembly on Jan. 16 in Annapolis. If two major proposed budget items are approved, they will have a significant positive budgetary impact on the City for FY14.

The Governor's proposed budget contains an additional \$15.4 million in municipal Highway User Revenues (HUR) above what was previously programmed for FY14. HUR are used for transportation improvements involving concrete and asphalt work. If the Governor's proposed funding level is approved by the General Assembly, this will amount to an additional \$1.1 million for the City of Rockville in FY14, based on the latest Maryland Department of Transportation estimates.

This proposed increase would restore municipal HUR to approximately \$23

million, which is close to half of the pre-recession funding level of \$45 million. The Maryland Municipal League, the City of Rockville, and other municipalities will be working diligently through the legislative session to keep the funds in the State budget.

Another item included in the Governor's proposed FY14 budget is restored Police Aid Protection funding. The Police Aid Protection provides operating grants for police protection services. These funds were cut by 35 percent since FY10. If approved by the General Assembly, the City of Rockville will receive approximately \$620,000 in FY14.

The State budget will be approved when the legislative session concludes on April 8. To learn more about the budget, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget/. ✚

Compensation Commission Works on Recommendation Residents Invited to Open Meetings

Rockville's Compensation Commission is working on a report to present to the Mayor and Council before the end of March. The report will recommend the annual compensation for the members of the Mayor and Council.

The Compensation Commission is required to convene every two years and provide a recommendation to the Mayor and Council by March 31. Any change in compensation would not take effect until after the November 2013 election.

The public is invited to attend meetings and is encouraged to provide input. The commission will use the public input in developing recommendations on various aspects of compensating the Mayor and Council.

The commission will meet at 7 p.m. on March 13, in City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Those unable to attend may send comments to clerk@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the City Clerk's office at City Hall or by phone at 240-314-8280 by March 15.

To learn more about the City's Compensation Commission, go online to www.rockvillemd.gov/government/commissions/compensation. ✚

AT A GLANCE:

- **Compensation Commission Meeting:** Wednesday, March 13, at 7 p.m., and Thursday, March 21, 9 a.m. City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

MEETINGS & DROP IN SCHEDULE

All general sessions, work sessions and public hearings are televised on Rockville Channel 11, and are available on streaming video at www.rockvillemd.gov. Residents may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most meetings. Meetings are at 7 p.m. and are subject to change.

- **March 4** (Monday)
- **March 11** (Monday)
- **March 18** (Monday)

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents for drop-in discussions from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall. No appointment is necessary, but a call to the City Clerk's Office is appreciated, call 240-314-8280.

Along with **Mayor Marcuccio**, the councilmember scheduled is: **Tom Moore, March 11.**

IN BRIEF



Historian Eileen McGuckian leads a tour through St. Mary's Cemetery.

City Leaders Take Step to Join Heritage Area

The Mayor and Council voted to join the Maryland Heritage Areas Program with their adoption of amendments to the Comprehensive Master Plan (2002) in late January.

Now the City awaits a final approval by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA), which will consider Rockville's proposed amendment to the Montgomery County Heritage Area Management Plan later this spring. In February, the City took representatives of the MHAA Board and staff from the Maryland Department of Planning on a tour of Rockville's heritage resources, and amenities that will support local and out-of-town heritage travelers. The City also hosted a state public hearing on the topic at City Hall on Feb. 12.

If approved by the state, the City and local heritage and non-profit organizations could be eligible for grants and loan assistance for a variety of projects that support Heritage Tourism efforts, such as buying, developing, and programming certain types of buildings in active tourism use.

The City's adopted master plan amendments are posted on the City's website with maps to show the area of focus for the program. For more information, contact Robin Ziek at 240-314-8230 or history@rockvillemd.gov.

Charter Review Commission Update

Ballot Language Under Consideration

After presenting their report to the Mayor and Council in January, the Charter Review Commission is working with City staff to propose language for the 2013 City election ballot.

The three advisory referenda questions are based on the commission's recommended changes to the City Charter. The commission's report recommended:

- Extend the length of terms for the Mayor and Councilmembers from the current two years to four years
- Schedule the Rockville City elections to be held every four years and to coincide with federal presidential elections
- Increase the number of City councilmembers from the current four to six

The next step is Mayor and Council review and approval of the three draft questions. For more information on the Charter Review Commission, go online to www.rockvillemd.gov/government/commissions/charter.

Registration Continues for City's Summer Camps

Sports, crafts, dance, fitness, field trips and more are just some of the activities awaiting Rockville-area children this summer, and now is the time to get in on the fun.

Registration for the City of Rockville's popular summer camps continues this month. With more than 50 camps to choose from, including new camps added this year, children are sure to find something to suit their tastes.

View the summer camp guide online, or pick up a copy at Rockville City Hall, City of Rockville community centers and the Rockville or Twinbrook libraries. Register through Rock Enroll on the City's website, by mail or fax, or in-person at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Some parents may want to take advantage of the City's convenient payment plan.

For more information on Rockville's summer camps program, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/summercamp or call the City's Recreation and Parks Department at 240-314-8620.



Save the Date: Sister City Wine Tasting Benefit

The Rockville Sister City Corporation will host an annual wine tasting fundraiser on Friday, April 5, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr.

The evening will include tasting of a variety of wines along with hors d'oeuvres, as well as a blind wine taste test. Reserve your spot at the event for \$25 by March 25; tickets are \$30 at the door. Proceeds from the event will help offset the costs of student and cultural exchanges between Rockville and Pinneberg, Germany and Jiaxing, China.

Mail your reservation payment to the Rockville Sister City Corp., 111 Maryland Ave.



Reminder to Apply for Neighborhood Matching Grants

Applications Due April 15

Rockville's Organizing Communities and Neighborhoods (ROC-N) matching grant program supports neighborhood associations and encourages active citizen participation.

Through this program, neighborhood organizations may apply for monetary assistance to support community-oriented projects, actions and initiatives.

Qualified neighborhood organizations are eligible for up to \$1,000 annually and must provide a match (cash or in-kind) equal to the grant amount requested. Projects will be evaluated and selected by a City of Rockville staff committee based on the following criteria: community involvement, tangible neighborhood benefit, project readiness, neighborhood match.

Applications are accepted twice a year, with due dates of April 15 and Oct. 15. For more information on the matching grant program, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/government/citymanager/grant.htm or contact Orlando Heyliger, Neighborhood Resource Coordinator, at 240-314-8343 or oheylinger@rockvillemd.gov.

In The Community



Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio recognizes Lilane Blom's work at Tabula Rasa Art Studio last year.

City Celebrates Rockville Business Appreciation Week

Members of the Mayor and Council, City of Rockville staff, Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) board members, and the Rockville Chamber of Commerce board members will visit about 50 businesses during the week of March 11 to 15 for Rockville Business Appreciation Week.

These 45-minute visits with the company chief executive or the head of the Rockville office will provide insight on the business and its needs. The visits help the City, REDI and the Chamber understand how to better support business growth and success in Rockville.

"Local business support our quality of life through property taxes and by providing thousands of Rockville jobs and services to our residents," said Councilmember Mark Pierzchala, the council's REDI representative. "Taking a week to recognize these companies is the least we can do."

Each company will answer survey questions on how their business is doing. The responses help REDI understand the current economic climate in Rockville.

For more information on REDI, visit their website at www.rockvilleredi.org.

Rockville's Recent Past Series to Start this Month

Public Invited to Learn about the history of Rockville's Varied Neighborhoods

When the word "history" is mentioned, what may come to mind are events that occurred over centuries ago.

In her book, Rockville's Recent Past, Peerless Rockville Historian Teresa Lachin reminds readers that even 50 years ago is still considered a historical time period to be studied and analyzed. Published in June 2012, Lachin's book is now coming out of the pages and taking form in a new series starting this month.

Lachin's book gives readers a glance at what neighborhoods, churches, schools, public buildings, libraries, shopping centers, and healthcare facilities were like in Rockville during the post-war era in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s.

Beginning this March, Peerless Rockville and the City of Rockville are giving residents the opportunity to take a look at Rockville's recent past and to learn more about where they live through a series of illustrated presentations

and walking tours with the Rockville's Recent Past Series.

The series kicks off with a neighborhood profile of Twinbrook, which, according to Lachin, has been referred to as the "quintessential American suburb." The free event will be held at the Twinbrook

Community Center Annex, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy on March 23 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., featuring guest

speaker Professor Richard Longstreth of George Washington University.

Rockville's Recent Past Series continues into April and May, culminating in an evening lecture and panel discussion at Rockville City Hall on May 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Peerless Rockville is a non-profit organization aiming to preserve buildings, objects, and information important to Rockville's heritage. To learn more about Peerless Rockville, visit their website at www.peerlessrockville.org.



Join in on March Madness in Rockville

Kids Invited to Play With Rockville City Police at Basketball Tournament

Kids in grades five through nine can team up with their friends and play with the Rockville City Police Department in the City's March Madness Basketball Tournament.

Show off your skills on Friday, March 22, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the eighth annual event. The tournament will be held at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center gym, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy.

The event not only gives kids the chance to get to know Rockville City Police officers, but it also exemplifies the priority the City places on having police officers be



a part of the community. Tournament check-in begins at 6:30 p.m. and games begin at 7 p.m. The

Twinbrook Elementary PTA will sell refreshments throughout the games. This slam-dunk night of fun

will also feature prizes, a DJ, and trophies to be awarded to the winning teams.

The tournament is open to teams of three students in grades five through nine. Team members must register individually and provide a team name.

The cost is \$5 for City residents and \$6 for non-residents. Interested players can register with the City's Rock Enroll system on www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation or contact 240-314-8830.

For more information on Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/twinbrook.

News You Can Use

Seniors Find Fitness with Center's Personal Trainers

The new Senior Center's expanded fitness room has been up and running for nine months with a membership that has more than doubled in size.

The facility currently holds 17 pieces of cardio equipment and 11 pieces of strength training equipment (three of which are wheelchair accessible), with room for additional equipment to be added. With the state of the art fitness room the Senior Center is able to accommodate all fitness levels.

If you haven't given the fitness center a try, consider using its popular personal training program. The center has three nationally certified personal trainers that specialize in serving the senior population. In addition, one trainer is a cancer exercise and post-rehab exercise specialist.

The Senior Center training program has improved the quality of life of many seniors by helping them get stronger, healthier, and re-



Trainer Gail Biedscheid helps Senior Center member Pat Salapka.

duce certain medications, which allows many of them to continue to age in place. To use the fitness center, you must join the Senior Center (\$40 per year fee), 1150 Carnation Dr., and pay an additional \$75 fitness center fee annually. There is a one-time \$10 fee for personal training assistance.

Learn more by calling the fitness desk to set up a tour, or stop by and talk to the staff in the fitness center. The fitness center desk number is 240-314-8813, and the main Senior Center number is 240-314-8800. ✚

City Bridge Repairs Coming This Spring

Two Bridges Receiving Planned Maintenance

There are more than 100 bridges within Rockville's city limits which carry vehicles and pedestrians along Rockville's roads.

The City's Department of Public Works maintains vehicular bridges and pedestrian bridges in the City's right-of-way as part of Rockville's bridge rehabilitation program.

In January, the Mayor and Council awarded a contract to maintain and repair City bridges. Typical repairs include steel beam, connection hardware, bearing, concrete, and bridge roadway joint repair and other miscellaneous improvements. The two long-span bridges planned for repair this spring are: the Monroe Street bridge and West Gude Drive bridge (over I-270).

Monroe Street Bridge

The City's bridge consultants have completed the design of improvements to the Monroe Street bridge. Construction will start in the March/April 2013 time

frame. Monroe Street is a street-level bridge between East Montgomery Avenue and Monroe Place. The expansion joints will be replaced, the surface lights will be removed and sealed, and a steel beam will be repaired. This project will require one lane of Monroe Street to be closed between East Montgomery Ave. and Monroe St during the five-week construction period, with traffic to flow south-bound only. A traffic detour will be implemented.

West Gude Drive Bridge (over I-270)

The West Gude Drive bridge spans I-270 between Research Boulevard and Piccard Drive. Construction is planned to start in May and continue for two months, weather permitting.

The bridge has several areas of concrete that need repair, as well as replacement of the two bridge expansion joints. The 12-inch water main under the bridge also

continued on pg. 8...

Online Utility Billing Available Now

Residents who receive bills from the City of Rockville for water, sewer and recycling and refuse services now have the option to receive and pay those bills online.

To pay online, visit the website at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/online_utilitybill.htm and set up a user ID and password. It is also possible to enroll in auto pay so that your credit or debit card is automatically charged each time you are billed.

To have utility bill payments automatically taken out of your checking or savings account visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/utility-electronic-transfer.pdf.

To receive your bill by email visit www.rockvillemd.gov/e-gov/ebill.html and fill out the form.

For more information about utility billing, contact the Revenue Division at 240-314-8420 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/utility.htm. ✚

Water Main Breaks Keep Public Works Crews Busy

As the temperature in Rockville transitions from winter to spring, it is not uncommon for the City to experience water main breaks.

Breaks have the potential to affect many residences and/or businesses in Rockville. Between Dec. 27 and Jan. 8, Rockville's Department of Public Works (DPW) responded to 18 breaks. The department will continue to respond and restore water service as quickly as possible as breaks occur.

The change of temperature between below freezing and above freezing temperatures is the major factor leading to the water main breaks. The temperature change causes river water temperatures to rise and fall. This varying temperature of the water flowing through the pipes causes contraction and expansion in the older cast iron pipes.

These cast iron pipes are significantly more likely to crack than the newer concrete-lined ductile iron pipes, which DPW began installing in the pipe system in the late 1970s. While the water main replacement program is replacing the older cast iron pipes, it will take decades to replace all the older pipes in the City's pipe system, according to Craig Simoneau, director of DPW.

Water main breaks are repaired with two different methods. If it is a circular break, which is a break

around the circumference of the pipe, it is repaired using a clamp. If the break is across the length of the pipe, the segment of pipe with the break has to be replaced with a new segment. In both cases, the water is turned off to isolate the break with a series of valves.

"We stay on water breaks until they are re-



Changes in temperature are the leading cause for water main breaks in the City.

paired," Simoneau says. "No matter when it happens, if there is a water main break, we consider that a life safety issue."

If residents or business owners experience low or no water service, or if there is running water on the street while it is not raining, Simoneau encourages you report it to DPW, as it could be a sign of a water main break.

For more information on Rockville's DPW, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/publicworks. To report a water main break, contact the DPW utility line at 240-314-8500, 24 hours a day. ✚

IN AND AROUND ROCKVILLE

Book Sale at Rockville Library on March 9

The Rockville Friends of the Library are holding a book sale in the Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave., on Saturday, March 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Most books are \$1 or less, with coffee table books priced a little higher. All proceeds will benefit the library.

If you have any questions or would like to either join the Rockville Friends of the Library or make a monetary donation, please email RockvilleFOL@gmail.com or call 240-777-0020.

Earn a Free Bike this Spring

Kids can Participate in the TERRIFIC Bikes Program

Students in grades one through five are invited to be a terrific citizen to earn a free bike.

The City of Rockville's TERRIFIC Bikes Program encourages students to be Trustworthy, Earnest, Respectful, Responsible, Involved, Fair, Industrious, and Caring. Each participant must complete six or more responsible deeds and must have an adult sponsor to sign off and monitor their progress in order to earn a free bike.

Participants will keep track of their deeds on a form that can be downloaded at the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/terrificbikes. Completed forms can be mailed to TERRIFIC Rockville-Citizen Bike Award Program at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. Forms are due by April 1. Bikes are limited to the first 50 kids who return completed forms and fully meet the TERRIFIC program requirements.

All successful participants will receive a certificate and will be recognized at the Rockville Mayor and Council Meeting on Monday, May 6, at 7 p.m. Meetings are televised on Rockville 11 (cable channel 11).

Awardees will receive their reconditioned bike, new helmet and lock on Sunday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to noon at a special event hosted by Bikes for the World's "Rockville Youth Bike Project." A brief orientation on bike safety will be provided.

For more details, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/terrificbikes or call 240-314-8643.

Sponsor a Special Event

The City of Rockville hosts several popular special events throughout the year, presenting local businesses and residents the opportunity to serve as an event sponsor. A variety of sponsorship levels is available.

In 2013, more than 165,000 people are expected to attend events that the City hosts. Events on tap for the remainder of 2013 include but are not limited to:

- Hometown Holidays: The City's 25th annual town center weekend festival will be complete with bands and performers, a Taste of Rockville for area restaurants, the Memorial Day parade and more; May 25-27.
- Uncorked: A wine and music festival with cooking demonstrations and two stages of musical entertainment in town center; August 24.
- Antique and Classic Car Show: One of the region's premier car shows includes more than two dozen car clubs showing more than 500 vehicles on the grounds of the City's Civic Center Park; October 19.

Consider this opportunity to highlight your organization or business to a large number of people attending City events.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, contact Colleen McQuitty, special events manager, at 240-314-8606 or cmcquitty@rockvillemd.gov or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/events/sponsorship.

Pajama Jam and Movie Night

Find your comfy pj's and sleeping bag and join us for a movie on the big screen on Friday, March 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

Bring your friends and family too. Popcorn and other refreshments will be sold.

Register for course #42113; Fee is \$3 for residents, \$5 for non-residents.

Theatre Happenings this March

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr. hosts two productions for the month of March.

The Rockville Civic Ballet presents "Sleeping Beauty" & "Gershwin Times Three" with performances on Saturday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$16 for adults, and \$12 for children 12 and under and seniors 60 and older. Group rates are available. For tickets, call 240-314-8690. Assigned seat tickets may be purchased in person, by phone, or by mail order at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office.

Enjoy the music by Washington, D.C. composers, both past and present, with the Rockville Concert Band's production, "Composer Spotlight: DC." The performance is on March 17 at 3 p.m. There is a \$5 suggested donation. For more information call 240-314-8681.

For ticket details and more information on the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

Tennis Tournaments for Adults and Youth Coming this Spring

The City of Rockville is bringing back its' adult tennis tournament, and for the first time will host a USTA-sanctioned youth tournament – both great opportunities to lace up your tennis shoes for some high-impact action.

The "10-and-Under" format for youth emphasizes skill development in a fun, non-competitive setting. Registration for both tournaments starts this month, so plan now to step up to the net and step up your game! Here's what you need to know:

Adult Tennis Tournament (Age 16+)

- First round: Saturday, May 4
- Tournament lasts three weeks, working around players' schedules (players will have three good-weather days to set up matches on weekday evenings and/or weekends)
- Players are guaranteed two matches (singles play only)
- Brackets based on: age, gender, and ability/ranking
- Finals include trophy ceremony and brunch
- Fee: \$45 Residents/\$55 Non-residents
- Course #: 42690 (register by April 19)

The 10-and-Under Tennis Tournament

- Date: Saturday, May 11; 1 to 5 p.m.
- Players will use kid-sized: courts, nets, rackets (and low-compression balls)
- Court supervisors will provide guidance to players
- Brackets based on age: Tiny Rackets (5-6 years old), Pee Wees (7-8), or Bantams (9-10)
- Fee: \$35 Residents/\$45 Non-residents
- Course #: 42691

Both tournaments will be played on City of Rockville tennis courts. To register, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation and click on Rock Enroll. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports or call 240-314-8620.

Arts & Entertainment

Student Art Show Returns to Glenview Art Gallery Grades Kindergarten Through 12 Showcase Their Artwork

The work of Rockville's student artists will be featured at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr., in an upcoming free exhibit.

Residents can marvel at sculptures, paintings, charcoals, and more by Rockville's students. The annual student art show runs from Sunday, March 3, through Thursday, March 21.

This show features the work of students in grades kindergarten through 12 who live in or attend school in the City of Rockville. While submissions have already been accepted for 2013, students interested in participating in future shows can visit www.rockvillemd.gov/arts for more information on how to enter. The exhibit is a popular community event and is open to the public.

An opening reception will be held Sunday, March 3, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The opening festivities will include an award ceremony for participating students at 2 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For additional information about the exhibit and other monthly shows, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/arts or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov.



Audition for The Finest! Parade Marching Wildcatz!



The area's premier marching drill unit.

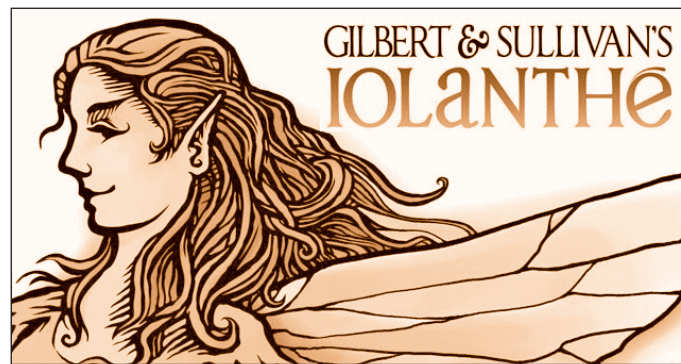
Saturday, March 23, Noon-4 p.m.
Twinbrook Community Recreation Center
12920 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20851
\$43 residents/\$48 nonresidents



Looking for talented drummers, cymbal players and other percussionists.

Wear shorts/sneakers. (No jeans)
Be prepared for an all-day work-out.
Bring light lunch and water.

www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/finest



Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents 'Iolanthe'

Enjoy a Night at the Opera at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

The Victorian Lyric Opera Company returns to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre this spring at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr.

Their spring production Iolanthe is one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular operettas. In the operetta, the powerful peers of Britain's House of Lords run afoul of an even more potent force—the Queen of the Fairies and her winged minions. Gilbert's barbed satire of the aristocracy is comple-

mented by Sullivan's glorious music. VLOC's production is directed by Alan Paul with Musical Director Joseph Sorge.

Don't miss out on this comedic opera on March 1 and 2 at 8 p.m., and March 3 at 2 p.m. Adult tickets are \$24, seniors \$20, and students \$16. A discussion session with the cast and crew will follow the performance. For ticket information go to www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre or call the box office at 240-314-8690.

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre
at Rockville Civic Center Park
Great Performances in the Neighborhood.
Call the Box Office at 240-314-8690 for tickets.
603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville, Maryland 20851

FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC**, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration required, register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center** **SR**, 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- **Rockville City Hall** **CH**, 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find something that interests you at www.rockvillemd.gov and click on recreation registration on the right side.

March

1,2,3 Victorian Lyric Opera Company Presents Iolanthe The comedic opera continues this March at the theatre. The spring production is one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular operettas. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre for ticket information. See page 6 for more details. **FSF**

March Calendar

RES = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

1-April 19 PE for Homeschoolers This class will help parents meet the physical education requirements for home-schooled children, ages 5 to 15. The classes will be held on Fridays from March 1 to April 19, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Ln. Register for course number 42101; cost is \$56 RES/\$65 NR

2 Scout Badge Day – Jr. Girl Scouts, Animal Habitats Naturalists will help scouts complete the necessary requirements to achieve the badge. All materials will be provided. \$14 RES/\$16 NR **CC**

3-21 Annual Student Art Show The exhibit features the work of Rockville's students at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. An opening reception will be held Sunday, March 3, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. See page 6 for more information. **GM**

8 Pajama Jam and Movie Night Find your comfy pj's and sleeping bag and join us for a movie on the big screen. Popcorn and other refreshments will be sold. Join in on the fun at Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., from 7 to 9 p.m. See page 6 for more information.

8 Opening Reception: "Crossing the Distance" exhibition Come see the work of emerging contemporary artists from Afghanistan and the United States in a creative/cultural exchange and a traveling exhibition that crosses the boundaries of geography, time, culture, poli-

tics and language. The reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. The exhibition will run from March 1 to March 30 in the Kaplan Gallery, second floor, at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St. For more information go to www.visartsatrockville.org.

8 Opening Reception: "B.G. Muhn: Accidental Reality" The exhibition for artist B.G. Muhn's compelling paintings will run from March 1 to March 30 in the Gibbs Street Gallery, second floor, at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St. An opening reception will be held on March 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.visartsatrockville.org.

9 Orientation to RWBC Learn about the programs available through Rockville Women's Business Center and other resources in the community to expand or start your business. Workshop will be held at RWBC, 95 Monroe St., from 9 to 10 a.m. FREE

9 ABC's of Starting a Business What does it take to start your own business? Learn all about the necessary steps and what resources are available to support your business endeavor. This workshop will be held at RWBC, 95 Monroe St., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost: \$10 fee.

9,10 Sleeping Beauty and Gershwin Times Three Visit the theatre this spring for the Rockville Civic Ballet's production of "Sleeping Beauty" and "Gershwin Times Three," with shows Saturday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 2 at 2 p.m. Go to the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre to learn more about ticket information. See page 6 for more details. **FSF**

11-15 Rockville Business Appreciation Week Rockville Economic Development, Inc. and the Mayor and Council will visit businesses in the City to thank them for doing business in Rockville. Visit www.rockville.redi.org See page 4 for more information.

14,25 Lifeguard Pre-Test See if you are qualified to participate in Lifeguard Training. Participants must be at least 15 by course completion and must be able to swim 300 yards. Aspiring lifeguards must pass the pre-test in order to participate in Lifeguard Training. The test will be held at the Rockville Swim and Fitness, 355 Martins Ln., on two dates: March 14, from 7 to 8 p.m., register for course number 41849; March 25, from 4 to 5 p.m., register for course number 41848.

14,25 Lifeguard Training All participants who pass the Lifeguard Pre-Test will go through the Lifeguard Training course at Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Ln. For the March 14 to May 16 course, from 7 to 10:30 p.m., register for course number 41849; for the March 25 to March 31 course, from 4 to 10 p.m., register for course number 41849. Cost: \$195.

17 Composer Spotlight: DC Bring the whole family to enjoy an afternoon of music at the theatre with this Rockville Concert Band production at 3 p.m. There is a \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre for more information. See page 6 for more information. **FSF**

22 March Madness Join in on March Madness at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center,

12920 Twinbrook Parkway, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. See page 4 for more information.

23 Rockville's Recent Past Series – Twinbrook Peerless Rockville and the City of Rockville present the Rockville's Recent Past Series featuring a five-part neighborhood profile with walking tours and illustrated presentations. The first of the series will showcase the Twinbrook neighborhood. See page 4 for more information.

25-29 Spring Break Mini Camp at Lincoln Park Community Center Kids can enjoy a week full of supervised activities at Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. See page 2 for details.

25-29 Spring Break Mini Camp at Thomas Farm Spring into fun at the camp available at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Dr, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. See page 2 for more information.

25-29 Spring Break Mini Camp at Twinbrook Register your kids for the camp at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information see page 2.

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted.

6 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7 p.m. Meets the first Wednesday of the month.

For the most up-to-date event listings visit www.rockvillemd.gov or sign up for the E-Letter: Just click on "subscribe to news" on the left side of the home page, enter your name and email, and choose City Events.

7 Environment Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the first Thursday of the month.

9 Board of Appeals 9:30 a.m. Meets the second Saturday of the month. Meetings are televised on Channel 11.

12 Human Services Advisory Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

12 Rockville Sister City Corp. 7:30 p.m. Meets the second Tuesday of the month.

13,20 Planning Commission 7 p.m. Meets twice a month. Meetings are televised on Channel 11.

19 Rockville Seniors, Inc. 1 p.m. Meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive

20 Rockville Housing Enterprises Board Meets the third Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at 621 A Southlawn Ln.

21 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m. Meets the third Thursday of the month. Meetings are televised on channel 11.

26 Traffic and Transportation Commission 7 p.m. Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.

28 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board 7 p.m.

FOR MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

Los niños disfrutarán en mini campamento de vacaciones de primavera

Regístrate para una semana de actividades

La Ciudad de Rockville ofrece un asequible Mini Campamento de Vacaciones de Primavera para niños en tres centros convenientemente ubicados de la comunidad.

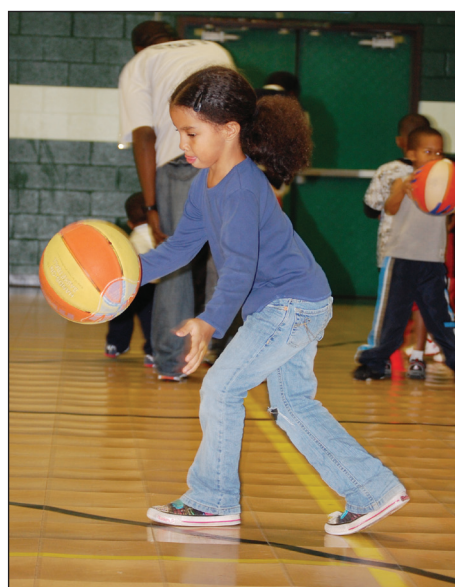
Los niños desde kindergarten hasta quinto grado disfrutarán de una semana con programas y actividades supervisados desde el lunes 25 de marzo hasta el viernes 29 de marzo, de 9 a.m. a 3 p.m.

Las actividades incluyen manualidades, juegos organizados, deportes, diversión y aventura. El Mini Campamento incluye un día de paseo al Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., donde se realizarán excursiones, juegos de interior y exterior y una fogata con algunas otras cosas más. Los participantes deben recordar traer su almuerzo cada día y usar ropa cómoda y zapatillas.

El Mini Campamento estará disponible en:

- Centro Comunitario en Lincoln Park, 357 Frederick Ave. Es necesario registrarse (curso #42778). El campamento diurno cuesta \$120 para residentes/\$125 para no residentes.
- Centro Comunitario en Thomas Farm, 700 Falls Grove Dr. Es necesario registrarse (curso #42169). El costo es de \$130 para residentes/\$140 para no residentes.
- Centro Comunitario Recreativo en Twinbrook, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy. Es necesario registrarse (curso #42773). El costo para la semana de campamento es de \$130 para residentes/\$140 para no residentes.

Es posible que parte de la programación varíe ligeramente dependiendo del lugar. Si deseas obtener mayor in-



formación acerca de cómo registrarte visita www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation. ❖

Reporte de la Comisión de Revisión

Lenguaje de la Boleta Electoral en Cuestión

Después de presentar su informe a la Alcalde y el Consejo en Enero, la comisión de Revisión del Documento trabajó con el personal de la Municipalidad para proponer un tecto nuevo para la boleta electoral del 2013 de la Ciudad. Las tres preguntas de referendo consultivos se basan en los cambios recomendados por la comisión al Documento de la Ciudad.

El Informe de la comisión recomienda:

- Extender la duración del mandato para el Alcalde y Miembros del Concejo de los actual dos a cuatro años.
- Programar las elecciones de la Ciudad de Rockville, para que se celebren cada cuatro años, coincidiendo con las elecciones federales presidenciales.
- Aumentar el número de miembros del consejo de cuatro a seis miembros.

El siguiente paso es la revisión y aprobación por parte de la Alcaldesa y el Concejo de las tres preguntas formuladas. Para más información sobre la Comisión de Revisión del Documento de la Ciudad, visítenos en línea: www.rockvillemd.gov/government/commissions/charter. ❖



Save the Date: Preschool Open House

The City of Rockville's Montrose Discovery Preschool will host an open house on Tuesday, April 23 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

The Montrose school's teachers and children celebrate many holidays and festivals from cultures around the world throughout their curriculum experience, as some students speak English as a second language.

Currently eight languages are spoken by students and/or staff at the school, where instruction is in English. Enrolled parents and families are invited to come to the school and teach the students about traditions from their native countries.

The open house is a chance to meet classroom teachers, tour the facility, and learn about summer and fall preschool programs. Children must be 3 years old and toilet trained to attend the school, which is located at 451 Congressional Ln.

For more information, call Alice Nikitina at 240-314-8631 or email her at anikitina@rockvillemd.gov.

Neighborhood Notes

Meet Your Neighbor: Teresa Harn

Meet Your Neighbor is a regular feature in Rockville Reports and on Channel 11 designed to highlight the unique individuals that make our community a special place. To nominate someone for a future episode and article, contact Jennifer Ligsay at jligsay@rockvillemd.gov.

An active member of the Rockville Senior Center, the City's Cultural Arts Commission and Asian Pacific American Task Force (APA), Rockville resident Teresa Harn is all about the arts.

Ms. Harn began the Yellow Plum Folk Drama club and the Lincoln Evergreen Dance Troupe. Through these groups, she is able to share with others her passion for singing and dancing.

Serving on the APA Task Force, Ms. Harn helps with translation for local businesses staffed with Chinese employees. Ms. Harn finds out what they



may need from the City government to support their business. She also contributes to eight local Asian-language newspapers as a freelance writer.

Ms. Harn hopes to raise more awareness for Rockville residents of the wide range of Asian American activities available in the City, including the annual Lunar New Year celebration. This year, she helped coordinate groups and performers for a Glenview Mansion Sunday afternoon concert in conjunction with the February art gallery exhibit, which featured Chinese artists.

Ms. Harn was born

in China at the end of World War II, and then moved to Taiwan in 1949. She studied English literature at the National Taiwan University. She earned her masters in applied psychology at Winona State University in Minnesota.

"I'm grateful because I had the chance to see the world," Ms. Harn says.

She moved to Fairfax County where she worked for 23 years. In 2002, she retired and found a new home in Rockville. The City's large Asian American population gives her a sense of home.

Ms. Harn says serving others is what she dedicates her life to, and it's what makes her work worthwhile.

"By helping other people, you are happy," she says. "You are happy and fulfill the purpose of your life." ❖

Bridge Rehab

continued from pg. 5...

needs repair. This work will require a complete night time closure of the West Gude Drive bridge and the periodic night time closure of north and southbound local lanes on I-270. A Gude Drive traffic detour will be implemented, with the bridge closure permitted only between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. The contractor will be required to apply for a noise waiver from Montgomery County Department of Environment Protection in order to complete the night work.

For more information about these bridge projects, check out the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/public-works or contact John W. Hollida, the City's project manager, at 240-314-8526 or jhollida@rockvillemd.gov. You can also contact Orlando Heyliger, the City's neighborhood resource coordinator, at 240-314-8343 or oheylinger@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

Get Ready to Celebrate Earth Month in Rockville

Enjoy All Things Environmental in April

Start making plans for a month full of activities, stream cleanups and workshops all in celebration of Earth Month in Rockville. The City of Rockville celebrates Earth Day on April 22, but residents will learn all month how to stay green all year.

Learn about all the ways you can better the environment at the H2O Summit on March 16. The free event will cover topics including stormwater education and pollution prevention, water quality improvement and stream health, and volunteerism and social behavior efforts to affect change. For more details on the event, go to www.h2osummit.eventbrite.com.

Green Your Backyard

The RainScapes Rewards and Information Sessions will be held on April 13 and May 5 at Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd. The event is free and is a great opportunity to learn about how you can "Green Your Backyard." The sessions will cover how installing a rain barrel, planting trees, and replacing turf



Stream cleanups are just one of the many ways residents can celebrate earth month in Rockville.

grass with conservation landscaping techniques saves the environment and saves you money. To sign up, contact Shannon Philbin, Watershed Specialist, at sphilbin@rockvillemd.gov.

Drive Clean

Get your car inspected for free at the Maryland Clean Car Clinic on April 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Dr. Motorists can have their vehicles inspected by an accredited automotive technician and learn ways to maintain their cars to keep them run-

ning cleanly and efficiently. Participants must pre-register by calling 240-314-8840.

Adopt A Stream

Volunteer for a stream cleanup at sites throughout Rockville on April 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. These cleanups are a part of the annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup.

If you can't attend these events, there are still a number of ways you can go green during Earth Month. For a full list of all Earth Month events, visit the City's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/environment. ❖



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the City of Rockville's website. If you don't already have a QR code reader on your phone, there are plenty of free apps you can download. When you have an app installed, point your phone's camera at the code and the website will appear in your phone's web browser.



Get Into It

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PHYLLIS MARCUCCIO

Councilmembers

JOHN F. HALL, JR.

TOM MOORE

BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON
MARK PIERZCHALA

City Manager: Barbara B. Matthews
Asst. City Manager, Acting
Communication Manager: Jennifer Kimball

Public Information Specialist: Noelle Barton

Contributing Writer: Jennifer Ligsay
Graphics & Printing Div.: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Nikita Jones, Leon Porter, Lori Russler

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right around

the corner



parking



shopping



buzz is
building



dining

Exciting things are coming to Rockville Town Center!

Plans are under way for a new mixed-use high-rise in Rockville Town Center. This development is sure to add to an already lively downtown Rockville, offering residents and visitors alike more dining, shopping and entertainment choices.

Find out more about the project and the available parking in the area. Visit any Rockville Town Center merchant to pick up a brochure with parking map or go to www.rockvilleparking.com for more information.